

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN BILL THOMAS**, on February 7, 2003 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 172 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Bill Thomas, Chairman (R)
Rep. Arlene Becker, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Mark Noennig, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Tom Facey (D)
Rep. Steven Gallus (D)
Rep. Ray Hawk (R)
Rep. Daniel S. Hurwitz (R)
Rep. Larry Jent (D)
Rep. Holly Raser (D)
Rep. Don Roberts (R)
Rep. Ron Stoker (R)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: Rep. Penny Morgan (R)

Staff Present: Susan Fox, Legislative Branch
CJ Johnson, Committee Secretary

Please Note. These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed. the time stamp for these minutes appears at the end of the content it refers to.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 484, 1/31/2003
Executive Action: HB 56-Do Pass As Amended, HB 399-
Tabled, HB 446-Tabled

HEARING ON HB 484

Sponsor: REP. ROY BROWN, HD 14, Billings, Montana

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. BROWN opened the hearing on HB 484 and explained to the Committee that this bill provides assessment and counseling for a person convicted of partner or family member assault. He gave further testimony about the bill specifically as to the language on pages two and three.

Proponents' Testimony:

Corbit Harrington, Yellowstone County Attorney, rose in support of HB 484. Mr. Harrington informed the Committee that currently in the State of Montana, there is no treatment for abusers. He spoke of the women in Montana that are being "killed by the bureaucracy of the State." **Mr. Harrington** further informed the Committee of the statistics from Anger Management Classes, local treatments and local funding, and coordinating the courts and special interest groups for a resolution or consensus on minimum standards.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 15}

Opponents' Testimony:

Tootie Welker, Western Montana Legislative Committee, distributed her written testimony to the Committee. **Ms. Welker** spoke of her support as to the intent of the bill, but also stated her opposition to HB 484.

EXHIBIT (huh27a01)

EXHIBIT (huh27a02)

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 15 - 21.6}

Marti Wangen, Montana Psychological Association, distributed her written testimony to the Committee. **Ms. Wangen** spoke of her opposition to Section 1, (4)(b)ii and iii. She also distributed written testimony from Joe Keller, LCSW, Kalispell, Montana.

EXHIBIT (huh27a03)

EXHIBIT (huh27a04)

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 21.6 - 23.1}

Colleen Murphy, Montana Chapter of National Association of Social Workers, rose in opposition to HB 484.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 23.1 - 25.4}

Informational Testimony:

Beth Satre, Montana Coalition for Victims Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, spoke as an informational witness to the Committee. She stated that HB 484 would be acceptable as is without new underlined language. Ms. Satre also referred to Page 2, Line 26 in her testimony.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 25.4 - 30}

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

REPS. ROBERTS, NOENNIG, FACEY, BECKER, HURWITZ, and GALLUS questioned the sponsor, Mr. Harrington, Ms. Satre, Ms. Welker, and Ms. Murphy, about the various practitioners providing services and their qualifications, the treatment given to the women, proposed changes to the bill, batterer's intentions, and availability of services to both the abuser and the victim.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 30}

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 8.3}

Closing by Sponsor:

REP. BROWN closed the hearing on HB 484, and offered a suggestion to the Committee that a subcommittee be appointed to work on the amendments. The subcommittee was then appointed.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 8.3 - 14.9}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 56

Motion: REP. NOENNIG moved that HB 56 DO PASS.

Motion: REP. NOENNIG moved that HB 56 BE AMENDED.

EXHIBIT (huh27a05)

Discussion:

Ms. Fox, Legislative Staffer, explained the amendment. The Committee discussed the amendments, medication policy therein, involuntary commitment, treatments and the rights of the patients.

Vote: Motion that HB 56 BE AMENDED carried unanimously. (voice vote)

Motion/Vote: REP. NOENNIG moved that HB 56 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote, REPS. WINDY BOY and RASER voting by proxy.)

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 14.9 - 30}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 399

Motion: REP. NOENNIG moved that HB 399 DO PASS.

Discussion:

REPS. NOENNIG and JENT discussed HB 399 with both of the Representatives opposed to this bill and gave testimony to that effect.

Motion/Vote: REP. GALLUS moved that HB 399 BE TABLED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. REPS. WINDY BOY and RASER voting by proxy.

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 5.6}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 446

Motion: REP. JENT moved that HB 446 DO PASS.

Motion: REP. GALLUS moved that HB 446 BE AMENDED.

Discussion:

REP. JENT spoke of the "Preamble Youth Court Act."

Motion/Vote: REP. GALLUS moved that HB 446 BE AMENDED. Motion carried 7-5 with REPS. FACEY, HAWK, HURWITZ, JENT, and ROBERTS voting no by roll call vote. (REP. MORGAN absent, not voting; REPS. WINDY BOY and RASER voting by proxy.)

Motion/Vote: REP. JENT moved that HB 446 BE TABLED. Motion carried 10-3 with REPS. FACEY, GALLUS, and WINDY BOY voting no by voice vote. REPS. RASER and WINDY BOY voting by proxy. (voice vote)

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 5.6 - 14.5}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:45 P.M.

REP. BILL THOMAS, Chairman

CJ JOHNSON, Secretary

BT/CJ

EXHIBIT (huh27aad)